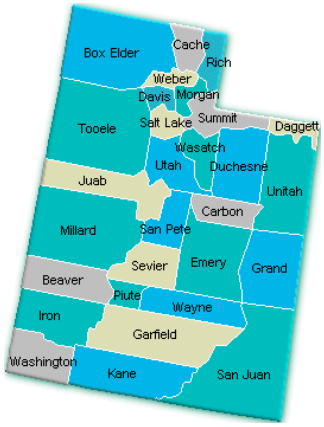

USDA-NRCS—Salt Lake City, Utah

2008 FIRE RECOVERY INITIATIVE

Screening Criteria, Ranking Tool Questions and Instruments

Note to all users: The official Ranking Tools are located in Protracts.

2008-Environmental Quality Incentives

Screening Criteria

(Participant Name: _____Protracts ID # _____

NRCS Employee Screening Application:_____ Date:_____

References:

- htpp://www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/
- EFOTG
- CPM440-Part 512 CPC
- CPM 440-Part 515 EQIP
- TMDL or Listed Watersheds:
- National Planning Procedures Handbook (NPPH)
- UT Bulletins
- Area Rangeland Management Specialist

Technical questions on this ranking tool should be directed to Area Technical and Program Specialists.

Producers must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible for 'EQIP WILDFIRE RECOVERY INITIATIVE FUND POOL:

Is the applicant enrolling privately-owned or Tribal grazing lands that have burned in 2007 with in the states' boundaries?

- A: Cropland acres (used for grazing crop aftermath) are not eligible.
- B: All forested areas containing trees with commercial value are not eligible.
- C. Woodland areas (Pinyon/Juniper) that have previously been grazed are eligible grazing lands.

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- **The Producers primary emphasis is to restore the health, productivity, and vigor of Privately-Owned and Tribal grazing lands burned by wildfires.**
- **THE APPLICANT MUST MEET ALL THESE REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR RANKING.**

*APPLICANT SIGNATURE:*_____

*QR DATE:*_____*INITIALS:*_____

CONSERVATION PRACTICES-to claim points for National Priority Question#3, the proposed project must include one or more of the following practices:

Access Road (560)
Irrigation System, Surface and Subsurface (443)
Alley Cropping (311)
Irrigation Water Management (449)
Amendments for the Treatment of Agricultural Waste (591)
Mulching (484)
Anaerobic Digester, Controlled Temperature (366)
Nutrient Management (590)
Animal Mortality Facility (316)
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
Anionic Polyacrylamide (PAM) Erosion Control (450)
Pest Management (595)
Atmospheric Resource Quality Management (370)
Prescribed Burning (338)
Closure of Waste Impoundment (360)
Prescribed Grazing (528)
Composting Facility (317)
Pumping Plant (533)
Conservation Cover (327)
Range Planting (550)
Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
Recreation Area Improvement (562)
Constructed Wetland (656)
Recreation Land Grading and Shaping (566)
Contour Buffer Strips (332)
Recreation Trail and Walkway (568)
Contour Farming (330)
Residue Management, Seasonal (344)
Contour Orchard and Other Fruit Area (331)
Restoration and Management of Declining Habitats (643)
Cover Crop (340)
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
Critical Area Planting (342)
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
Cross Wind Ridges (589A)
Rock Barrier (555)
Cross Wind Trap Strips (589C)
Practices continued on Pg 4:

NATIONAL Priority Issues

Question 1: Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in considerable reductions of non-point source pollution, such as nutrients, sediment, pesticides, excess salinity in impaired watersheds consistent with TMDL's where available as well as the reduction of groundwater contamination or point source such as contamination from confined animal feeding operations?

- To claim these points, the proposed project must be expected to meet quality criteria for all applicable NRCS Water Quality criteria.

Question 2: Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the conservation of a considerable amount of ground or surface water resources?

- To claim these points, the proposed project must be expected to meet quality criteria for all applicable NRCS Water Quantity criteria.

Question 3: Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction of emissions, such as particulate matter, nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds, and ozone precursors and depleters that contribute to air quality impairment violations of National Ambient Air Quality Standards?

- To claim these points, the proposed project must include one or more of the conservation practices on pages 3 and 4.

Question 4: Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in soil erosion and sedimentation from unacceptable levels on agricultural land?

- To claim these points, soil erosion must go from above T, to T, or below T as a result of the proposed project OR Quality Criteria for Soil Condition must be met as a result of implementing the proposed project

Question 5: Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable increase in the promotion of at-risk species habitat conservation?

- To claim these points, the project must be expected to meet quality criteria for one or more of the four national at-risk species resource concerns, which are:
  - Plant Condition; Threatened and Endangered Plant Species
  - Plant Condition; T&E Plant Species: Declining Species, Species of Concern
  - Fish and Wildlife; Threatened and Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species

At-risk plant species are in Appendix C. - Rare Plant Species by Habitat Type

At-risk animal species are in Appendix A. - Utah CWCS Tier I, II, and III Species List.

See Utah-NRCS Website—Programs-EQIP tab.

Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
Deep Tillage (324)
Stream bank and Shoreline Protection (580)
Drainage Water Management (554)
Strip-cropping (585)
Feed Management (592)
Surface Roughening (609)
Field Border (386)
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
Filter Strip (393)
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
Firebreak (394)
Use Exclusion (472)
Forest Site Preparation (490)
Vegetative Barrier (601)
Forest Stand Improvement (666)
Waste Facility Cover (367)
Fuel Break (383)
Waste Storage Facility (313)
Grassed Waterway (412)
Waste Treatment Lagoon (359)
Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment (548)
Waste Utilization (633)
Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
Wastewater Treatment Strip (635)
Hedgerow Planting (422)
Wetland Creation (658)
Herbaceous Wind Barriers (603)
Wetland Enhancement (659)
Irrigation Canal or Lateral (320)
Wetland Restoration (657)
Irrigation Field Ditch (388)
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
Irrigation System, Micro irrigation (441)
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation (650)

STATE Priority Issues

Question 1: Has the applicant committed to provide total private grazing land acres versus Burned grazing land acres?

Total private grazing lands are defined as "All grazing lands owned, leased, or controlled By the applicant."

- Answer Yes or No

Questions 2-5 Answer only one question.

Formula: Total area burned (acres) / Total private grazing land (acres).

Question 2: % BURNED ACRES: Is the percentage of burned private grazing land acres 0.1-24%?

- Answer Yes or No

Question 3: % BURNED ACRES: Is the percentage of burned private grazing land acres 25-49%?

- Answer Yes or No.

Question 4: % BURNED ACRES: Is the percentage of burned private grazing land acres 50-74%?

- Answer Yes or No.

Question 5: % BURNED ACRES: Is the percentage of burned private grazing land acres 75-100%?

- Answer Yes or No

Question 6: : Is the applicant implementing a post-burn Prescribed grazing system for the length of the contract?

Post Burn prescribed grazing system is a plan to reduce or eliminate grazing pressures on lands impacted by Wildfires.

- Answer Yes or No.

Questions 7: Is the average distance greater than 1 meter between perennial herbaceous plants

- Answer Yes or No.

In the field measurement and analysis is required to answer this question.

Question 8: If range seeding is to be implemented, is the applicant including a plant species in the seed mix as recommended in writing from a DWR or NRCS wildlife biologist?

- Answer as appropriate.

NOTES:

Question 9: Was the pre-burn plant community dominated by invasive annuals such as cheat grass, medusa head, Russian thistle, or the mustard family etc.?

Rangeland Health Indicator #16 should indicate an extreme or moderate to extreme departure for this ecological site to answer yes.

- Answer as appropriate.

Questions 10—12 Answer only one question

Soil Erodeability Factors (I) for wind erosion are located in published soil survey databases, or consult the Area Office Soil Scientist for proper (I) factor to utilize.

Question 10: Is the wind erodeability index (I) 48 or less?

- Answer Yes or No.

Question 11: Is the wind erodeability index (I) between 56 and 85?

- Answer Yes or No?

Question 12: Is the wind erodeability index (I) 86 or greater?

- Answer Yes or No.

Questions 13-15 Answer only one question.

Soil Erodeability Factors (Kw) for water erosion are located in published soil surveys, or consult the Area Office Soil Scientist for proper factor to utilize.

Question 13: Is the Water Erodeability factor (Kw) less than or equal to .02?

- Answer Yes or No.

Question 14: Is the Water Erodeability factor (Kw) greater than .02 or less than .4?

- Answer Yes or No.

Question 15: Is the Water Erodeability factor (Kw) equal to or greater than .4?

- Answer Yes or No.